REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-9, 14-17, and 19 are currently pending and Claims 1, 17, and 19 having been amended. The changes and additions to the claims do not add new matter and are supported by the originally filed specification, for example, on page 19, line 11 to page 20, line 15; and original Claims 1, 17, and 19.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 4-9, 14-17, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; Claims 1, 4, 6-9, 14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyamoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,496,278, hereinafter "Miyamoto") in view of Uya et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,530,797, hereinafter "Uya"); Claims 5 and 15-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyamoto in view of Uya and Jehta et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,661,426, hereinafter "Jehta"); and 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyamoto in view of Uya and the 1984 publication "Structured Computer Organization" by Tanenbaum, hereinafter "Tanenbaum".

With respect to the rejection of Claims 1, 4-9, 14-17, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, Claim 1, 17, and 19 have been amended to recite "a reducing unit." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection should be withdrawn.

With respect to the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), Applicants respectfully submit that the present amendment to Claim 1 overcomes this ground of rejection. Amended Claim 1 recites, *inter alia,*

> a first plane memory configured to store first moving picture data reproduced from a recording medium;
>
> a second plane memory configured to store second moving picture data reproduced from the recording medium;

a selection means for selecting at least one of an output of the first plane memory and the second plane memory on a pixel-by-pixel basis,

a reducing unit configured to reduce a size of the first moving picture or the second moving picture;

a third plane memory configured to store presentation graphics data reproduced from the recording medium;

a fourth plane memory configured to store interactive graphics data reproduced from the recording medium;

a first blending unit configured to modify an opacity of the interactive graphics data stored in the fourth plane memory based on a predetermined opacity value;

a first combining means for combining an output from the selection means and the presentation graphics data stored in the third plane memory;

a second blending unit configured to modify an opacity of an output from the first combining means based on the predetermined opacity value; and

a second combining means for combining an output from the first blending unit and the second blending unit,

wherein the selection means selects corresponding to an intended display position of a reduced size moving picture, and a display signal is generated based on the output of the selection means.

Applicants submit that Miyamoto and Uya fail to disclose or suggest at least these features of amended Claim 1.

Miyamoto describes a signal processing apparatus for reproducing an image signal stored on a recording medium, for example, a television receiver. (See Miyamoto Abstract). Miyamoto, in Figure 11, shows a television receiver including a graphic processing unit 106, a video memory 107, and peripheral circuits. (See Miyamoto, col. 9, lines 13-19, Figure 11). The video memory 107 of Miyamoto includes a moving image plane 1109, a still image plane 1110, a moving image and still image switching plane 1111, a character and graphic plane 1112, and a subtitle plane 1113. (See Miyamoto, col. 9, lines 32-35, Figure 11). The graphic

processing unit 106 of Miyamoto includes α blending units 1105 and 1107 that control the levels of input data to synthesize images and adders 1106 and 1108 to add data received from the character and graphic plane 1112 to data received from the subtitle plane 1113. (See Miyamoto, col. 9, lines 20-31, Figure 11).

The Office Action appears to assert that the subtitle plane 1113, the character and graphic plane 1112, α blending unit 1105 and adder 1106, and α blending unit 1107 and adder 1108 of Miyamoto respectively correspond to "a third plane memory configured to store presentation graphics data reproduced from the recording medium; a fourth plane memory configured to store interactive graphics data reproduced from the recording medium; a first combining means for combining an output from the selection means and the presentation graphics data stored in the third plane memory; and a second combining means for combining an output from the first combining means and the interactive graphics data stored in the fourth plane memory," as recited in previously presented Claim 1. (See Office Action, page 7).

Miyamoto, in Figure 11, shows the α blending unit 1105 receiving an output from the switching unit 1104 and sending an output to the adder 1106, which adds the received output from the α blending unit 1105 to an output from the character and graphic plane 1112. (See Miyamoto, Figure 11). In addition, Miyamoto, in Figure 11, shows the α blending unit 1107 receiving an output from the adder 1106 and sending an output to the adder 1108, which adds the received output from α blending unit 1107 to an output from the subtitle plane 1113 before sending an output to the display device 108. (See Miyamoto, Figure 11).

However, Miyamoto merely describes a switching unit 1104 which switches between the moving image plane 1109 and the still image plane 1110, an α blending unit 1105 that α blends the data from a selected image plane, an adder 1106 that adds the blended data with unblended data from the character and graphic plane 1112, an α blending unit 1107 that α

blends the added data, and an adder 1108 which adds the blended data to data from the subtitle plane 1113. Miyamoto clearly does not describe or show the α blending unit 1105 (as a first blending unit) modifying an opacity of the data stored in the character and graphic plane 1112 based on a predetermined opacity value, the adder 1106 (as a first combining means) combining an output from the switching unit 1104 and the subtitle plane 1113, the α blending unit 1107 (as a second blending unit) modifying an opacity of an output from the adder 1106 based on the predetermined opacity value, and the adder 1108 (as a second combining means) combining an output from the α blending unit 1105 and the α blending unit 1107.

In other words, Miyamoto clearly does not α blend an output from the subtitle plane 1113 and merely α blends data from one of the image planes 1109/1110, adds data from the character and graphic plane 1112 to the blended data, α blends the combined data, and then adds data from the subtitle plane 1113 to the blended combined data.

Applicants respectfully submit that Uya does not remedy the deficiencies of Miyamoto with regard to amended Claim 1.

Uya describes a workstation that simultaneously displays a plurality of video dynamic images assigned to respective windows on a screen while subjecting the images to overlap control. (See Uya, col. 1, ll. 7-11). The workstation of Uya includes a CPU 11, a data bus 12, a first video signal processing circuit (VSP) 7A, a second video signal processing circuit (VSP) 7B, a first read/write (R/W) control circuit 17A, a second read/write (R/W) control circuit 17B, a static-image memory (SI) 1, a first dynamic-image memory (DI1) 2A, a second dynamic-image memory (DI2) 2B, a first window area memory (WA1) 3A, a second window area memory (WA2) 3B, a first dynamic-image area memory (DA1) 4A, a second dynamicimage area memory (DA2) 4B, a priority control register 5, a color look-up table

(LUT) 8, a data selector 6, a digital-to-analog (D/A) converter 9, and a color display 10. (See Uya, col. 4, line 54 to col. 5, line 3, Fig. 1).

The Office Action assert that Uya describes a first VSP (7A) for receiving and processing a first moving picture video signal such as magnification/reduction, a first image/plane memory (2A), a second VSP (7B) for receiving and processing a first moving picture video signal such as magnification/reduction, a second image/plane memory (2B), a third image/plane memory (1), and selection circuitry for selecting on a pixel-by-pixel basis which areas of the images stored in the image/plane memories are outputted. (See Office Action, page 4). However, Uya clearly does not disclose or suggest any of the above-mentioned elements modifying an opacity of data stored on an image/plane memory, combining data selected from the first and second image/plane memories with data stored in the third image/plane memory, modifying an opacity of the combined data, and combining first data that has been blended with second data that has been blended.

Therefore, Miyamoto and Uya do not disclose or suggest "a fourth plane memory configured to store interactive graphics data reproduced from the recording medium; ***a first blending unit configured to modify an opacity of the interactive graphics data stored in the fourth plane memory based on a predetermined opacity value***; a first combining means for combining an output from the selection means and the presentation graphics data stored in the third plane memory; ***a second blending unit configured to modify an opacity of an output from the first combining means based on the predetermined opacity value***; and a second combining means for combining an output from the first blending unit and the second blending unit," as recited in amended Claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguishes over Miyamoto and Uya either alone or in proper combination.

Tanenbaum, and Jetha, have been considered but fail to remedy the deficiencies of Miyamoto and Uya with regard to amended Claim 1.

The Office Action also notes European Patent Document #0,447,197 to Gengler et al, Waki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,888,557), Ito et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,054,539), and Sumioka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,741,794). However, Gengler, Waki, Ito, and Sumioka, have been considered but fail to remedy the deficiencies of Miyamoto, Uya, Tanenbaum, and Jetha with regard to amended Claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants submit that amended Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguishes over Miyamoto, Uya, Tanenbaum, Jetha, Gengler, Waki, Ito, and Sumioka, either alone or in proper combination.

Additionally, amended independent Claims 17 and 19 recite features similar to that of amended Claim 1 discussed above. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claims 17 and 19 patentably distinguish over Miyamoto, Uya, Tanenbaum, Jetha, Gengler, Waki, Ito, and Sumioka, either alone or in proper combination.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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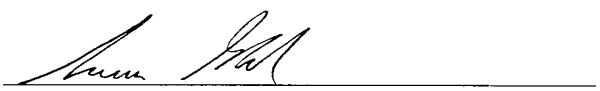

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